ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A distributed computing environment may employ spaces to provide a rendezvous mechanism that brokers services or content to clients. Services may advertise themselves in a space. Clients may find the advertisements in a space and use the information from an advertisement to access a service using a messaging mechanism. A space discovery protocol may be provided to find a space. A client may instantiate a discovery service to locate spaces. A listener agent may be configured associated with one or more spaces to listen for discovery requests. The listener agent may listen on various network interfaces, and may receive requests from clients looking for a space(s). The listener agent then responds with the service advertisement(s) or URIs for the service advertisements of the requested space(s). In one embodiment, the listener agent may be separate from the space and its functionality orthogonal to the functionality of the space.